

-27-

## CLAIMS

1. An electrophoretic display device,  
comprising:

a plurality of electrophoretic particles and  
5 an insulating liquid which are held in a container,  
a first electrode and a second electrode  
which are disposed close to said insulating liquid,  
and

means for applying voltages between said  
10 first electrode and said second electrode,

wherein said electrophoretic display device  
exhibits a display state including a first state in  
which said electrophoretic particles are dispersed in  
said insulating liquid by applying an AC voltage  
15 between said first and second electrodes, a second  
state in which said electrophoretic particles are  
attracted toward said first electrode by applying a DC  
voltage of one polarity between said first and second  
electrodes, and a third state in which said  
20 electrophoretic particles are attracted toward by  
applying a DC voltage of the other polarity between  
said first and second electrodes.

wherein the second and third states are  
exhibited alternately.

25

2. A device according to Claim 1, wherein the  
second and third states created by applying DC

-28-

voltages having an identical absolute value are substantially the same visual recognition state.

3. A device according to Claim 1, wherein said  
5 first and second electrodes are disposed symmetrically.

4. A device according to Claim 1, wherein said  
first and second electrodes are disposed  
10 asymmetrically.

5. A driving method of an electrophoretic display device comprising a plurality of electrophoretic particles and an insulating liquid  
15 which are held in a container, a first electrode and a second electrode which are disposed close to said insulating liquid, and means for applying voltages between said first electrode and said second electrode:

20 said driving method comprising at least:

a step of creating a first state in which said electrophoretic particle are dispersed in said insulating liquid by applying an AC voltage between said first and second electrodes,

25 a step of creating a second state in which said electrophoretic particles are attracted toward said first electrode by applying a DC voltage of one

-29-

polarity between said first and second electrodes, and  
a step of creating a third state in which  
said electrophoretic particles are attracted toward by  
applying a DC voltage of the other polarity between  
5 said first and second electrodes; and  
wherein the second and third states are  
exhibited alternately.

6. A method according to Claim 5, wherein said  
10 step of creating the first state is performed in  
advance of said step of creating the second state and  
said step of creating the third step.

7. A method according to Claim 5, wherein the DC  
15 voltage applied in the second state creating step has  
an absolute value substantially equal to that of the  
DC voltage applied in the third state creating step.

20

25